

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 3, 7-11 and 18 have been canceled.

Further, claim 12 is amended and dependent claims 4 and 6 have been amended to depend from claim 12.

No new matter is presented.

Approval and entry of the foregoing claim amendments are respectfully requested.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 4, 6, and 12-17 remain pending herein. Reconsideration of same is respectfully requested.

It is noted that an objection to claim 3, line 4, at page 2 of the Action, is rendered moot by the above cancellation of that claim.

Further, the rejection of claim 3 for obviousness under § 103 over Osawa et al. USP 5,892,492, at pages 2-3 of the Action, is likewise rendered moot by the cancellation of that claim.

The claims still pending herein, namely independent claim 12 and dependent claims 4, 6, and 13-17, are rejected for obviousness over a combination of Osawa et al. with Matsuda et al., and which rejections are respectfully traversed.

REJECTIONS OF PRIOR PENDING CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC § 103(a) FOR OBVIOUSNESS OVER OSAWA ET AL. (USP 5,892,492) IN COMBINATION WITH MATSUDA ET AL. (USP 5,218,268)

The aforesaid rejections of the pending claims over the combination of Osawa et al. and Matsuda et al. under § 103(a) are respectfully traversed.

Osawa et al. is silent with regard to a structure of a gas-discharge display apparatus and characteristics of an optical filter for use therewith, as are defined in claim 12.

To the contrary of the present claimed invention, the disclosure in Osawa et al. is premised on a structure in which a color filter, depending on a luminescent color, is provided for

each cell.

A plasma display panel according to Osawa et al. has a first optical filter, corresponding to each of the three primary colors and provided for each cell, and a second optical filter, having such a transmittance that the energy of a discharge light of the discharge gas is attenuated. The second filter in Osawa et al. merely plays an auxiliary role relative to that of the first optical filter. More particularly, as seen in Figs. 1 and 2, three adjacent cells having respective red, green and blue fluorescent substances 5R, 5G, and 5B and defined by spaced ribs 3 and intersections of address electrodes 4 (in the bottom of each cell as seen in Fig. 2) and sustaining electrodes 6 (separated from the cells by a protecting layer 10 and a dielectric layer 9 formed on the surface of a front glass substrate 1) have respective red, green and blue color filters 8R, 8G, and 8B--constituting the above-mentioned "first optical filter." Further, disposed on the upper (viewing) surface of the front substrate 1 is a "wave band selecting filter 11" constituting the above-mentioned "second optical filter." (Col. 3, lines 34-38; see also discussion of Figs. 1 and 2 at col. 3, line 39 through col. 4, line 38)

In contrast to Osawa et al., in the gas-discharge display apparatus defined in claim 12, desired filtering is achieved by an optical filter that is placed in front of a gas-discharge panel and covers the entire screen. The optical filter recited in claim 12 is a primary structural element for the purpose of improvement in display colors.

In Osawa et al., provision of the first optical filter having respective, different characteristics for the different luminescent colors causes a manufacturing process of such a plasma display panel to be complicated and, in addition thereto, causes the required filter design, for realizing desired filtering, to be complicated. When designing the second optical filter, it is necessary to discern the difference between desired filtering and filtering using the first filter. This filter design is difficult, compared to the filter design in the case of realizing desired filtering using a single filter. The first filter is susceptible to the influence of errors in manufacturing conditions of a plasma display panel, which makes filter design very difficult.

As illustrated in Fig. 11 of Osawa et al., transmittance of the filters in Osawa et al. is 70% or more. Hence, the filters of Osawa et al. do not yield sufficient effects of reducing light having a wavelength of the light emission of neon gas.

By contrast, according to the structure defined in claim 12, a transmittance at a first peak absorbency is 50% or less. Accordingly, an optical filter can sufficiently reduce light having a wavelength of the light emission of neon gas.

Accordingly, the desired result achieved by an optical filter in accordance with the claimed invention of claim 12 produces results which the radically different Osawa et al. filter does not achieve. Clearly, the deficiency of Osawa et al. as a primary reference in support of claim 12 is not merely that deficiency conceded in the three line paragraph at the top of page 4--and for which the Action then relies upon Matsuda et al. as purportedly overcoming that deficiency. To the contrary, Matsuda et al. is not relevant to the filter for use of a plasma display panel in accordance with the present invention and clearly does not overcome the deficiency of Osawa et al.

More particularly, Matsuda et al. does not relate to a plasma display panel, as is set forth in the pending claims and which is disclosed in the specification hereof as well as in Osawa et al., but rather to an antireflection film which can be applied to a cathode ray tube or a light transmitting display substrate such as a liquid crystal display "for the purpose of effectively avoiding reflection of external light." (Matsuda et al. in Summary of Invention)

Examples 1-9 of the reference relate to the preparation of a lower layer forming solutions of different compositions and which then are employed in the formation of an antireflection film. Example 10 then relates to the disclosure of applying the lower and upper layer forming solution of Examples 1-7 on the face plate 64 of a cathode ray tube 60 to form an antireflection multilayer film 68. Example 11, on the other hand, relates to applying the solutions to form an antireflection film 80 on the outer surface of a glass substrate 71 of a liquid crystal display.

Nowhere does Matsuda et al. suggest that the antireflection film is suitable for use with a plasma display panel for any purpose--much less for the purpose specified in the teaching and claims of the present application. Indeed, the Action is devoid of any explanation that the use of the Matsuda et al. antireflection film would be compatible with or satisfy the characteristics of an optical filter formed on a display screen of a gas discharge display apparatus as claimed herein. Indeed, there is absolutely no teaching in Matsuda et al. that the disclosed antireflection film, when disposed on the screen of a gas discharge device, would function for "selectively absorbing light having a wavelength equal to that of light emission of..." the specified "neon and helium gases..." as recited in claim 12.

Indeed, the focus of the Matsuda et al. reference is on antireflection characteristics of the multilayer film suitable for use with a CRT or liquid crystal display--and which has no relationship whatsoever to absorbing light of a wavelength equal to that of the light emission of

the gas in a PDP.

Hence, no demonstration of *prima facie* obviousness for the combination of the two references has been presented in the Action and the combination of Matsuda et al. with Osawa et al. relied upon in the rejection of claims in the Action is altogether unsupported.

Inasmuch as the primary reference to Osawa et al. is irrelevant with respect to the invention as defined by claim 12 and its dependent claims 4, 6, and 13-17, and since the deficiencies are not overcome by Matsuda et al.--and *prima facie* obviousness of the combination has not been established--further discussion of the combination with Matsuda is submitted to be unnecessary to support a distinction of the invention, as claimed herein, over the combination of the two references.

CONCLUSION

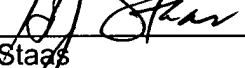
There being no other objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

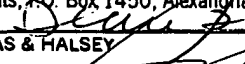

Respectfully submitted,

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